

Romulus News

OCTOBER 21, 2005 – NOVEMBER 3, 2005

"the little paper"

VOLUME 19 NUMBER 7

Timely Tidbits ...

Mayoral Q&A

Romulus residents planning to vote in the November 8 General Election won't want to miss our next issue, which will feature questionnaire responses from mayoral candidates Alan R. Lambert and Debbie Romak. Be sure to watch for it on Friday, November 4.

"Haunted Hayrides"

The Romulus Spring Fling Committee will host a Haunted Forest Hayride and Old-fashioned Carnival at Elmer Johnson Park (Ozga south of Wick) on October 21-22 and October 28-29 from dusk until midnight. Cost of the hayride is \$5; tickets for carnival games will also be available.

For more information, contact Regina Plank (734-331-2607) or Brenda Sharrow (734-637-5761).

CUMC Luncheon

Community United Methodist Church will host its 20th annual Hot Chicken Salad Luncheon at the church (11160 Olive) on Friday, November 4, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Donation is \$9 per person. Call Wanda (734-942-7995), Mary (734-941-0403), or the church office (941-0736) for tickets. Delivery available for orders of 6 or more.

Goodfellows Drive

The Romulus Goodfellows will conduct their annual newspaper drive on Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3. The group is asking local businesses and organizations to purchase sponsorship advertisements in the paper, which is used to raise money for the Goodfellows' "No child-(or senior citizen) without a Christmas" program. For more information, call City of Romulus PR director Kathleen Trent (734-955-4503) no later than November 7.

Trent is also inviting local businesses/organizations hosting holiday programs and/or Goodfellows fund-raisers to submit information about their events for inclusion in the newspaper's Holiday Calendar section. Again, the copy deadline is November 7. □

City Breaks Ground for New Rec Center



Elected officials taking part in the October 12 groundbreaking for the City's new recreation center were Mayor Alan R. Lambert (fourth from left) and (from left) Council members Debbie Romak, Bill Wadsworth, Randy Gear, Bill Crova, and LeRoy Burcroff.

The City of Romulus moved one step closer to a long-held dream on October 12 when it broke ground for a new recreation center.

Construction of the center – to be located at 35765 Northline Road (at the corner of Wayne Road) – will involve the renovation and expansion of the site's

existing building to create an 88,000-square-foot facility for both indoor and outdoor activities.

continued on page 16

School District Hosts Tax Symposium for Residents



Welcoming residents to a Romulus Community Schools Tax Symposium, held at Romulus High School on October 3, were a number of symposium presenters and Board of Education Finance Committee members, including (from left) Tom Kuderik (Board trustee), Ken Mientkiewicz (Board secretary), State Senator Ray Basham, State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood, Niema White (Board treasurer), Joel R. Carr (superintendent), Ray Tellman (executive director, Middle Cities Education Association), and Bill Routhier (director, Business and Operations). (For story, see page 7.)

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor MUST contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

Romak Responds

To the Editor:

During political campaigns, candidates must deal with all kinds of situations that are thrown their way – and, as politics goes, at times, these situations unfortunately get rather nasty. The challenge for a candidate like myself is to remain above the nastiness ... and, if need be, the gutter.

Since announcing my candidacy in February of this year, I have been the subject of many letters submitted to this newspaper by a resident, namely Todd Hauter. Mr. Hauter believes that I have no business seeking the office of mayor against his friend, current mayor Alan Lambert. As far as I am aware, this is still the United States of America. And, being a citizen of this country, not only I, but *any* person, has the right to seek any office in any election. I was never taught that, being a woman or a city councilperson, I would then be disqualified. Evidently, according to Mr. Hauter's previous letters, I should not be allowed to seek the mayor's seat.

I was not going to respond to these letters, for I do feel strongly that people have the right to express opinions, no matter how misguided they may be. After all, I do believe in freedom of speech and expression. But, I now have to draw the line with Mr. Hauter's last letter, which appeared in the October 7 issue of this paper.

I find it interesting that Mr. Hauter has resorted to a campaign of character assassination against me, rather than respond to my positions on the serious issues in this campaign. Mr. Hauter apparently cannot find fault with my positions, so he has attempted to smear my character through his letters. Personally, I wonder if he picked up those letters when he was seen at a local restaurant at lunches with the mayor, his secretary, and a recently retired police officer.

I first became involved in City affairs in 1993, when the City attempted to allow Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc., to build hazardous-waste injection wells here. After years of fighting this battle, I found myself deciding to seek a city council seat, where I felt that I could be more effective in protecting the citizens of Romulus and looking out for our future.

Now, as a council member for the last 10 years, I have fought not only to protect our environment, but to protect and look out for our citizens' hard-earned tax dollars.

I cannot disagree that I have, at times, asked some tough questions on various issues presented at the council table. I cannot disagree that, at times, I have been maybe a little "rough around the edges." But, was I supposed to sit there and let this administration and the "yes-men" on council run roughshod over this community? I have never been, nor will I ever be, a "rubber stamp" for any matter that has serious consequences for this city.

If being a hard-working, dedicated council member is a bad thing for this city, I plead guilty. But, Mr. Hauter, I took an oath of office at the beginning of each term. And, whether you like it or not, I have lived up to that oath ... to serve and protect the citizens of Romulus.

Debbie Romak

"Thanks" for Sign Abuse

To the Editor:

I really had a hard time trying to decide how to start this letter, but I guess the best way is to "thank" all the candidates who put up their signs without asking permission from the property owners and/or put up so many signs in one location.

As I talk to people in the community about this issue, I have heard the following comments again and again.

#1) "The nerve of some people to put up signs without asking if they can! If they think I'm going to vote for them, they're crazy!"

#2) (Regarding multiple signs in a single location) "Don't they think anybody can read?"

#3) (Regarding "supporters" who go around at night and remove or destroy opposing candidates' signs) "The only thing they are accomplishing is to insure that votes will be cast *against* the candidates whose signs are still standing."

These are the comments that I have personally heard from our residents.

It's a sad state of affairs when a person stoops to stealing or destroying others' signs, thinking that he/she is doing something really great.

Look in the mirror, people. What do you see?

It's sad to see this sort of thing come out at election time.

Some other comments I hear are:

#1) "Well, that's just politics."

#2) "That's just the way it is."

#3) "It's always like that."

#4) "Wait till a couple of days before the election and see what goes on."

continued on page 5



New Vision, New Ideas!

*E*lect
John R. BARDEN
*f*or
CITY COUNCIL

**Committed
Qualified
Determined**

ENDORSED AND SUPPORTED BY

- Mayor Alan Lambert, City of Romulus •
- Tom Ellis, Former Liaison to Mayor Lambert •
- Robert A. Ficano, Wayne County Executive •
- April Frayer, President, Romulus Board of Education •
- UAW-CAP Region 1A, Jimmy Settles, Director •
- Detroit Metro Airport Firefighters Association Local 741 •
- Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO, Donald Boggs, President •
- Herb Buckley, Romulus Director of Parks and Recreation •
- Betty Lenossi, Romulus Board of Education •
- Cheryle Buckley, Romulus Board of Education •
- Tom Kuderik, Romulus Board of Education •
- Dr. Terrel M. LeCesne, Former Asst. Supt., Romulus Schools •

Paid for by the Committee to Elect John R. Barden

The Romulus News

P.O. Box 74038 • Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Business Office: (734) 941-1907 • Fax: (734) 992-2052

Business Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

The Romulus News (also known as "the little paper") is published biweekly by Nite-Lite Graphics, P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038.

Nite-Lite Graphics and *The Romulus News* are owned and operated by Evelyn H. Atkins.

The Romulus News invites individuals and organizations to submit articles that may be of interest to its readers; however, *The Romulus News* is not responsible for the content of such articles, and the opinions and views expressed by the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff. *The Romulus News* reserves the right to edit any article submitted for publication; however, since material submitted for "Letters to the Editor," "Local Commentary," and similar columns may be printed verbatim, misspellings and grammar errors in these columns may be the responsibility of the writer, and not of the composition department of *The Romulus News*. All letters, commentaries, and other columns must be signed, and must include a telephone number so that their authenticity can be verified.

We are sorry, but we cannot guarantee the return of any photograph submitted to us, although every attempt will be made to do so.

The Romulus News reserves the right to run special advertising rates for each area covered by its distribution without effect on normal contractual rates.

The Romulus News will furnish "personal" (nonbusiness) advertisements, free of charge, to Romulus residents on a "space available" basis.

While every effort is made to insure that advertisement copy is error-free, *The Romulus News* is not responsible for problems resulting from typographical errors which may appear in any advertisement, and limits its liability to the advertiser to the cost of the ad.

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Founder

General Manager

Editor

"Senior News" Columnist

Sales Representative/Distribution Manager

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November 8th – Elect
**ELLEN L.
CRAIG-BRAGG**
for Romulus City Council

**A Citizen with the
Heart of the Community
and the
Community at Heart**

Paid for by Committee to Elect Ellen L. Craig-Bragg



Re-elect
**RANDOLPH
GEAR**
Romulus City Council

**VOTE
November 8th**

Paid for by the Committee to Re-elect Randolph Gear

Ed "Butch"
BUCZKOWSKI

"A Person for the People"

- Ed is a resident and a longtime Romulus business owner.
- Ed will address the concerns of all residents of Romulus!
- Ed cares about our community, and he will work to earn your trust!
- Ed is prepared to serve on your behalf to make this a safer and more progressive community!
- Ed is currently a member of the 150 Sound Abatement Program, and he works on your behalf!
- Ed served as a Zoning Board of Appeals member!
- Ed is past Commodore of the Moslem Shrine Yacht Club.



ELECT
Ed "Butch" Buczkowski
Romulus City Council

**Ed "Butch" Buczkowski Cares About Romulus
and He Cares About You!**

You Can Make a Difference • Make Your Vote Count

ELECT ED BUCZKOWSKI

Paid for by Committee to Elect Ed Buczkowski

Guest Commentary

Vote for City's Future on November 8

By Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert

As you all know, we are just weeks away from what I believe is one of the most important elections our community has ever seen. The future of Romulus will be decided on November 8, and I want to urge all residents of this community to think long and hard before you cast your ballot on Election Day.

I would like the voters to think about where Romulus was four years ago. Our city was stagnant – we didn't even have our own grocery store – but now all that has changed. Over the past four years, we have been able to better our community and enrich the lives of our residents.

All you have to do is look around our community to see the difference. There are so many new projects and developments going on in our city that, everywhere you look, something is happening – whether it be the new senior center, the new recreation center, or the new retail development going up throughout the city. Let's keep that progress moving forward.

It is time for the residents in this community to take a stand for the future of Romulus. You must understand that you are not voting just for yourself, but you are voting to change the lives of your children and grandchildren. This election is one of the most important in

our community's history. The outcome of this election will affect generations of Romulus residents, and I, for one, want to make sure that our children and grandchildren have more opportunities and amenities than we had.

Voting is something that every person in our community and in this country should take seriously. It seems that, in our present day and age, our right to vote has become something we sometimes take for granted. I believe that we all should take a step back and remember what the generations before us sacrificed in order for us to have the right to vote.

Throughout our history, Americans have given their lives to ensure that we have the ability to decide who represents our best interests in matters of government. Right now, overseas, the brave men and women of our armed forces are fighting for the freedoms we enjoy. Many of them will make the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Our right to vote is one of the most important rights we hold as United States citizens; it is a sacred right that we should not take for granted. So, I urge all of the residents in this community to make sure to get the vote out on November 8. Remember: We are voting for the future of our city, so let's make it count this Election Day. □

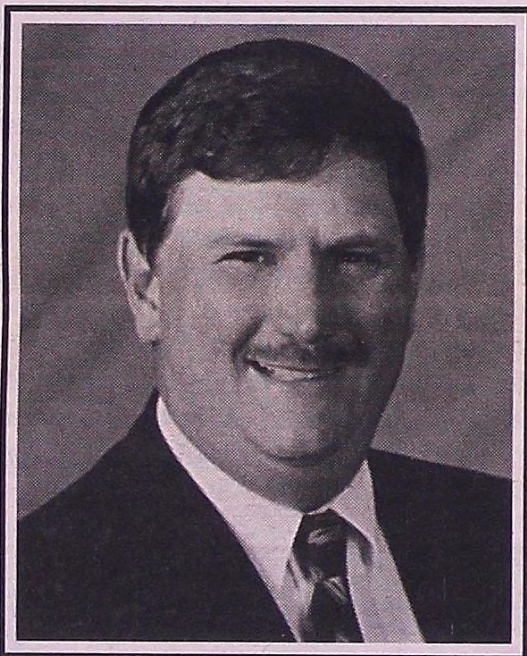
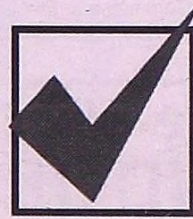
Statue Dedication at Public Library



(From left) Shelley DeLano, director of the Romulus Public Library, and Friends of the Romulus Library members Phyllis Elrod, Tammy Ragay, Blanche Bogotski, Lillian Patrias, and Michael Patrias were on hand for the September 29 dedication of a new bronze statue – Max Turner's "Learning to Read" – that has been placed in front of the library in memory of Lew and Nell Sheppard (the latter of whom joined the Friends in 1978, and was instrumental in the organization's growth and success). The statue was donated by the Friends and the Sheppard Family of Romulus.

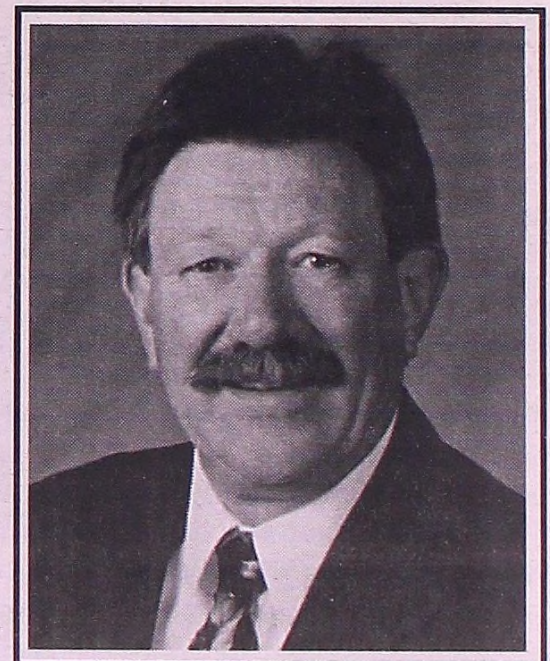
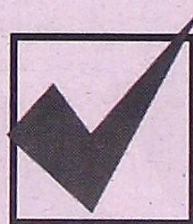
RE-ELECT TO THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL

**LeROY D.
BURCROFF**



**WILLIAM A.
CROVA**

**MICHAEL A.
PRYBYLA**



**Working Together
for a Better Romulus**



Paid for by the Committee to Elect William Wadsworth

**Remember to Vote
Tuesday, November 8th**

**Re-elect Bill
WADSWORTH**

**to
ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL**

**Serving with Honor and
Integrity for 22 Years**

P.S. Adopt a Pet!



**Niema
WHITE**

**for Romulus
CITY COUNCIL**

- ☒ **Experienced**
- ☒ **Dedicated**
- ☒ **Trustworthy**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect
Niema White



**Elect
Harry Crout
Romulus City Council**

**I will work on ways to lower property taxes
and bring shopping and jobs into the city
for the residents of Romulus**

Qualifications . . .

Retired from General Motors after 33 years
Member, U.A.W. Local 735

**Endorsed for City Council by the U.A.W.
Served, U.S. Marine Corps**

Romulus Little League member for 12 years

Past Vice-President Little League

Member and Sergeant at Arms of Romulus Democratic Club

Member, Belleville Moose

Romulus resident, 30 years

Married to wife Sandy for 30 years

Father of two, grandfather of two

PAID FOR BY HARRY CROUT FOR CITY COUNCIL

Letters to the Editor

continued from page 2

I don't want to repeat myself, but I can't help it.

Last but not least is a comment about candidates who get endorsements from the heads of companies, organizations, and the like. Those leaders can't force the people under them to vote any particular way or to support any particular candidate. That is one thing that U.S. citizens have: the right to vote for the candidate of their choice in the privacy of the voting booth.

So, exercise your right to vote and *vote for the person YOU want to support*. Do the right thing, do the *only* thing that no one can take away from you, and vote for whomever you wish.

Ed Buczkowski

Let Votes Send Message

To the Editor:

Each person enlisting in an armed force takes the following oath:

"I, (name), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God."

Many of us in Romulus took this oath when we enlisted in our service branch.

One of our Constitutional rights, as citizens, is the freedom to vote in free, democratic elections. On November 8, we will go to the polls to elect our community's mayor and council members.

This past February, I witnessed Councilwoman Debbie Romak degrade and belittle Council Chairman Randy Gear over the issue of "educate" vs. "inform." Mr. Gear, a Detroit school principal, is a highly educated man with multiple degrees. He is also a member of the Army Active Reserves.

When one individual puts him-/herself above others like Mrs. Romak did that night, I believe that it's time to send him/her a clear and resounding message from the voting booths.

Councilwoman Romak's grassroots opposition to the Environmental Disposal Systems hazardous-waste injection well has inflated her head to the size of a helium-filled weather balloon. When one's head becomes that size, there are several things that can happen. First, in her case, she begins to believe that she can do anything, even though she does not have the skills. Secondly, the helium causes her judgment to become clouded, making it difficult to distinguish reality from false expectations.

It takes more than her bully-type tactics (which have been displayed in many council meetings) to manage and operate a community of our size. It

takes an individual who understands demographics; one who can envision growth and not be fearful of it. It takes someone with warmth and charisma to smooth over negotiations when a commercial business seeks to establish itself in our community.

Bully tactics may seem justifiable to someone who is pushing a platform that he/she strongly believes in. However, there is no place in city, state, or federal government for those types of tactics.

On another issue concerning our city elections, I truly believe that we, as veterans and/or citizens of our community, should send a similar message to Councilman Charles "Crybaby" Miller. For a grown man to act as he has over the past year leaves me in total disbelief.

My disdain for Councilmembers Debbie Romak and "Crybaby" Miller is my personal opinion. Opinions are like those proverbial body parts: everyone has one.

I would like to thank Susan Hurt, a citizen in our community, for her letter that appeared in the October 7, 2005 issue of *The Romulus News*. She was gracious in her message concerning former resident Ryan Block, who is trying to influence the citizens of our community through his letters to this paper. As many of you can see, I'm more direct and to-the-point, and I seldom pull punches. I believe in the shock-and-awe effect; it gets the attention of those I would like to keep "informed" about issues in our community.

There is one other issue that I strongly believe in, and that is our right to vote. From the very rebellion that set the course for the birth of our nation and our constitution, thousands of lives were lost in establishing our current way of life. And, over the years since then, thousands more have died to protect our country and our constitution.

I have heard so many individuals express their belief that their vote does not count. Out of respect to those women and men who have served our nation, and those who have died protecting our rights, I encourage everyone to exercise their right to vote. Sure, it means that you may have to wait in line, often in the elements, to get inside to the voting booths. (Out of regard for senior citizens who have a difficult time getting around, those of us who enjoy mobility should give them head-of-the-line privileges at all polling places.) Every individual vote counts; please don't think otherwise.

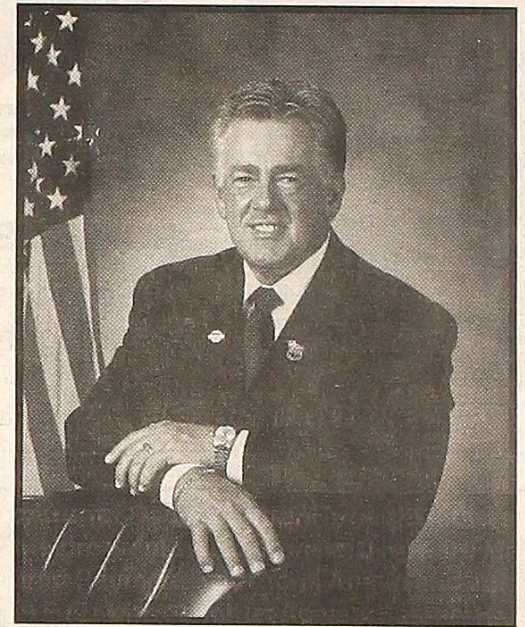
On November 8, vote for the individual of your choice — one you feel will make a difference in our community. As you cast *your* vote, ask yourself: Do we want to move *forward* with community development (which increases our tax base), or return to the Dark Ages?

Todd Hauter, USN (retired)

continued on page 18



RE-ELECT Mayor Alan Lambert



Leadership You Can Count on in a Crisis



One Good Term...

- **New State-of-the-Art Recreation Center**
Scheduled to open Fall of 2006, the center will be completed with no tax increase for residents.
- **New Senior Center**
Scheduled to open later this year, also with no tax increase to residents.
- **Doubled the size of the full-time Fire Department and improved to 24/7 operation**
- **Operation Fresh Look**
Aggressive Demolition Program
- **Downtown Revitalization**
- **Quality Citywide Development**
- **Quality Subdivisions and New Homes**
- **Four Consecutive Balanced Budgets**
- **No Layoffs or Cuts in City Services**
- **Open Door Policy with Residents**
- **Historical Park Improvements**
- **Effective Emergency Management Plan**
Under Mayor Lambert's leadership, we have dealt with two crisis situations — the multi-state blackout of 2003 and the recent EQ chemical plant explosion. Both were responded to in an organized and effective manner.

Deserves Another...

Planning for the Future:

- **CASINO**
Continue our plans to bring a world-class casino that will create thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in revenue to the City of Romulus and the schools, which will provide the opportunity for reducing property taxes for our residents.
- **RACETRACK**
Working to make Michigan Downs a reality for the residents of Romulus.
- **NEW RETAIL DEVELOPMENT**
Continue to work with major retail developers to bring quality shopping to Romulus.
- **NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS**
Will be built on donated property with no additional tax dollars.
- **NEW ANIMAL SHELTER**
Continue to work with Councilman Wadsworth to build a new animal shelter.
- **ADD NEW PARKS AND IMPROVE THE EXISTING ONES**

★ **Proven Leadership. Integrity. Vision.** ★

If you have any questions, please contact our campaign headquarters at (734) 941-2005

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Alan Lambert, 38475 Westvale, Romulus, MI 48174

AS MAYOR, COUNCILWOMAN DEBBIE ROMAK WILL MOVE ROMULUS FORWARD!

ROMAK

Respected By Her Constituents

Offers You Proven Leadership

Made Romulus a Better Place To Live

A Mayor Romulus Can Count On

Keeps Her Promises

- ★ 10 Years on Romulus City Council,
Including 4 Years as Chairwoman Pro-Tem
- ★ First Winner of the Petosky Award for Her Contributions
to Protecting the Environment
- ★ Voted Against the Recent Pay Increase
for Elected Officials
- ★ Voted to Keep GM Jobs in Romulus

DEBBIE ROMAK FOR MAYOR

Debbie Romak Will Get Romulus Moving Again!

DEBBIE ROMAK'S ISSUES ARE YOUR ISSUES!



Community.
Connecting.
Collaborating.
Creating.
Changing.

Join Debbie Romak's Campaign
to Change Romulus!
Drop by Debbie's Campaign Office
at 37573 Huron River Drive,
or Call Debbie at 734-941-5947

**ELECT COUNCILWOMAN DEBBIE ROMAK
MAYOR ON NOVEMBER 8th**

DEBBIE ROMAK WILL MOVE ROMULUS FORWARD!

Paid for by FDR, 36540 Romulus Ave., Romulus, MI 48174 • 734-941-3623

District Hosts Tax Symposium

In response to a number of questions raised at recent meetings of the Board of Education, the Romulus Community Schools hosted a Tax Symposium on October 3. The event, held at Romulus High School, gave residents a brief history of education finance in the State of Michigan and an update on the district's current financial status.

Hosting the symposium was attorney Ray Tellman, executive director of the Middle Cities Education Association. Other officials on hand to discuss issues and answer questions included State Senator Ray Basham and State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood, as well as Romulus superintendent Joel R. Carr, Business and Operations director Bill Routhier, and Board of Education Finance Committee members Ken Mientkiewicz, Niema White, and Tom Kuderik.

Tellman began the presentation by explaining Michigan's education finance system before the passage of Proposal "A" in 1994. Before 1994, school districts heavily relied on local property taxes for revenue — especially so-called out-of-formula districts like Romulus, which received no State Formula Aid because they spent more per student than the amount guaranteed by Michigan's district equalization formula.

The passage of Proposal "A", and the resulting shift toward State funding of education, reduced the amount of revenue that out-of-formula districts received. To counteract at least part of this revenue loss, residents of some districts, including Romulus, elected to pass "hold harmless" (supplemental) millages. In 1994, Romulus voters approved 16.63 "hold harmless" mills to augment the district's revenue — and, in the fall of 1999, they renewed that millage for an additional 10 years.

Although residents have authorized the levy of 16.63 "hold harmless" mills each year, the district has never asked for the full amount, according to Carr.

"The most we have levied was 14.82 mills in 1999, and we have since brought that rate down to the current 8.99 mills,"

he stated. (See chart below.)

Business director Routhier took advantage of the discussion to debunk the misconception that "hold harmless" monies may be used only for certain purposes.

"Hold harmless' funds are not separated out of the budget, and they are not earmarked for any specific programs," he explained. "The 'hold harmless' funds are part of the district's General Fund, and may be used to fund any and all educational programs offered by the Romulus Community Schools."

During his own remarks, Senator Basham noted that the State recently increased its Foundation Grant amount by \$175 per pupil for the 2005–2006 school year. This increase, he said, was the first in the last four years. Basham also noted that, in 2004–2005, Romulus received \$8,373 per student in Foundation Grant funds, and compared that to the amount received by Melvindale (another district in his constituency), which received \$8,500 per pupil.

After expressing his concern that State funding has not kept pace with local districts' increasing costs, Representative Hopgood told residents about House Bill 4582, which would require the State Legislature to increase annual funding for Michigan schools by the rate of inflation or 5%, whichever is less.

"We are now having people sign petitions to ask the Legislature to consider this bill, and I would urge you to sign one," said Hopgood.

"If the Legislature does not consider this proposal," he added, "it will be placed on the November 2006 ballot for a statewide referendum."

Superintendent Carr concluded by assuring residents that the district will continue to put Romulus children first.

"We provide many outstanding programs, and we have earned a record number of regional and state awards," he said. "The Romulus Board of Education intends to continue to provide the very best educational opportunities possible for Romulus children." □

Romulus Community Schools Partial Breakdown Of Local Millage Levy*

YEARS	HOLD HARMLESS (voter-authorized levy)	HOLD HARMLESS (actual levy)	DEBT LEVY
1994–96	16.63	9.82	4.60
1997–98	16.63	14.82	5.46
1999	16.63	11.82	7.00
2000	16.63	11.79	8.20
2001	16.63	10.99	7.50
2002–03	16.63	8.99	7.50
2004–06	16.63	8.99	7.00

*figures supplied by the Romulus Community Schools

The Police Blotter

Thanks to Sergeant Bryan Cozzaglio for submitting the following summary of the Romulus Police Department's significant activity from Monday, October 3, through Sunday, October 16.

Monday, October 3

- 2:05 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 11200 Moore)
- 8:51 a.m. – Breaking & Entering (B&E) (block of 33300 Swan Lake Ct.)
- 9:40 a.m. – Missing Person (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 9:53 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 6870 Middlebelt)
- 10:54 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 39200 Clocktower Dr.)
- 11:34 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:34 a.m. – Larceny (block of 9800 Inkster)
- 2:24 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 6:01 p.m. – Off-road Vehicle (ORV) Complaint (block of 38800 Nottingham Dr.)
- 6:04 p.m. – Robbery Alarm (block of 28400 Wick)
- 9:35 p.m. – Larceny (block of 39100 Wyoming)
- 11:31 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 28600 N. Maple)
- 11:58 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 6970 Carson)

Tuesday, October 4

- 1:43 a.m. – Property Damage/Malicious Destruction of Property (PD/MDOP) (block of 35400 Hawthorne Dr.)
- 7:04 a.m. – Fight (block of 34600 Avalon)
- 7:38 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 9430 Chamberlain)
- 8:10 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 35500 Hawthorne Dr.)
- 8:47 a.m. – Larceny (block of 29100 Wick)
- 1:14 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 35500 Vinewood)
- 5:16 p.m. – Larceny (block of 36600 Goddard)
- 5:35 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (JC/R) (block of 15600 Isabelle)
- 6:16 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 7780 Merriman)
- 6:17 p.m. – Threats (block of 7080 Niagara)
- 6:22 p.m. – Fight (block of 34900 Hearst)
- 7:12 p.m. – Threats (block of 9030 Gabriel)
- 9:38 p.m. – Fight (block of 9530 Biddle)

- 9:45 p.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 39100 Ecorse)
- 11:59 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 11200 Moore)

Wednesday, October 5

- 12:42 a.m. – Threats (block of 31400 Ecorse)
- 12:56 a.m. – Larceny (block of 7600 Merriman)
- 1:29 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 29100 Ecorse)
- 3:57 a.m. – Felonious Assault (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 5:12 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 30500 Redwood)
- 6:03 a.m. – Drug-related Activity/Investigation (Violation of Public Health Code, or VPHC) (block of 7780 Merriman)
- 10:20 a.m. – Child Abuse/Neglect (block of 28600 Northline)
- 11:25 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 9520 Biddle)
- 12:13 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 35600 Smith)
- 5:04 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 38700 Cody)
- 5:07 p.m. – Trespassing (block of 9520 Biddle)
- 5:09 p.m. – JC/R (block of 15200 Colbert)
- 5:27 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 5840 Chamberlain)
- 7:33 p.m. – Larceny (block of 34600 Julie)
- 8:12 p.m. – PD/MDOP (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 8:26 p.m. – Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) (block of 15000 Wayne)
- 10:45 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 11000 Moore)
- 11:59 p.m. – Rescue (block of 5930 Colorado)

Thursday, October 6

- 12:05 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 6710 Merriman)
- 12:49 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 34100 Pine Wood Cir.)
- 2:36 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 7100 Wayne)
- 6:26 a.m. – Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile (UDAA) (block of 15500 Harrison)
- 7:45 a.m. – Larceny (block of 9800 Inkster)
- 8:44 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6950 Niagara)
- 9:36 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 9090 Wickham)
- 9:58 a.m. – JC/R (block of 5900 Colorado)
- 10:28 a.m. – VPHC (block of 6400 Central)

- 11:19 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 7080 Niagara)
- 1:51 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 7080 Niagara)
- 4:23 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 33700 Henry Ruff)
- 4:27 p.m. – Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC) (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 5:31 p.m. – Fight (block of 6000 Second)
- 5:49 p.m. – B&E (block of 13000 Homefield)
- 6:47 p.m. – Larceny (block of 15000 Brookway)
- 7:36 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6010 E. Maple)

Friday, October 7

- 1:36 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 15700 Isabelle)
- 9:14 a.m. – Assault & Battery (A&B) (block of 37300 Wick)
- 9:16 a.m. – Threats (block of 15700 Isabelle)
- 2:03 p.m. – Minors in Possession of Alcohol (block of 8350 Whitehorn)
- 5:09 p.m. – Missing Person (block of 9190 Wickham)
- 5:41 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 39300 Ecorse)
- 6:24 p.m. – A&B (block of 28900 Goddard)
- 8:55 p.m. – B&E (block of 30600 Redwood)
- 10:05 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 15000 Knoll Way)
- 10:10 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)

Saturday, October 8

- 12:50 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 15000 Knoll Way)
- 1:08 a.m. – Fight (block of 9550 Middlebelt)
- 2:37 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 15000 Knoll Way)
- 4:12 a.m. – Fight (block of 6100 Colorado)
- 9:45 a.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 38100 Tyler)
- 11:33 a.m. – Trespassing (block of 7200 Hannan)
- 1:27 p.m. – Larceny (block of 5890 Georgia)
- 3:12 p.m. – Larceny (block of 30300 Flynn Dr.)
- 3:54 p.m. – Larceny (block of 6240 Edmund)
- 4:02 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:25 p.m. – JC/R (block of 15800 Isabelle)
- 5:19 p.m. – JC/R (block of 15800 Isabelle)

- 5:39 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 15000 Merriman)
- 5:42 p.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 16200 Middlebelt)
- 8:10 p.m. – OUIL (block of 11000 Middlebelt)
- 9:04 p.m. – A&B (block of 6090 Newberry)
- 10:16 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6330 Dexter)
- 10:19 p.m. – Rescue (block of 16500 Jessica Ln.)

Sunday, October 9

- 1:08 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 3:14 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6950 Niagara)
- 3:49 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 8500 Wickham)
- 4:25 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 8500 Wickham)
- 4:53 a.m. – B&E (block of 30200 Kipling)
- 9:12 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 35500 Stephanie)
- 11:46 a.m. – A&B (block of 15000 Colbert)
- 3:30 p.m. – Larceny (block of 37200 McBride)
- 3:38 p.m. – OUIL (block of 6800 Wayne)
- 5:22 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 36800 Ecorse)
- 6:39 p.m. – Dumping/Littering (block of 35400 Hawthorne Dr.)

Monday, October 10

- 7:23 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 36500 Grant)
- 11:09 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 35500 Mary)
- 1:52 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6310 Cordell)
- 3:28 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:25 p.m. – Larceny (block of 28300 Heather Way)
- 5:10 p.m. – Larceny (block of 9310 Wayne)
- 6:15 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 5970 Frederic)
- 8:37 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 11000 Whitehorn)

Tuesday, October 11

- 12:09 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 8580 Wahrman)
- 7:23 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6020 Georgia)
- 9:35 a.m. – Missing Person (block of 30500 Flynn Dr.)
- 12:10 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 28200 Ecorse)
- 2:19 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 9340 Washington)

continued on page 9

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The Police Blotter

continued from page 8

- 3:23 p.m. - Man with a Weapon
(block of 6000 Dexter)
- 9:52 p.m. - OUIL
(block of 15000 Harrison)
- 11:10 p.m. - Felonious Assault
(reported at RPD headquarters)

Tuesday, October 12

- 12:40 a.m. - PD/MDOP
(block of 6970 Niagara)
- 2:39 a.m. - Loud Music
(block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 8:00 a.m. - JC/R
(block of 9200 Middlebelt)
- 3:09 p.m. - Bad Checks
(reported at RPD headquarters)
- 6:37 p.m. - Fight
(block of 34900 Hearst)
- 6:58 p.m. - A&B
(reported at RPD headquarters)
- 7:03 p.m. - A&B
(block of 9240 Essex)
- 10:20 p.m. - Loud Music
(block of 11000 Delano)
- 11:52 p.m. - PD/MDOP
(block of 5800 Wayne)

Wednesday, October 13

- 1:22 a.m. - Loud Music
(block of 16600 Jessica Ln.)
- 5:45 a.m. - Larceny
(block of 28300 Goddard)
- 9:34 a.m. - Harassment Complaint
(block of 8230 Merriman)
- 10:49 a.m. - UDAA
(block of 6310 Fourth)
- 12:10 p.m. - UDAA
(block of 29100 Wick)
- 1:26 p.m. - Trespassing
(block of 31100 Flynn Dr.)
- 5:33 p.m. - Larceny
(block of 9320 Wayne)
- 6:33 p.m. - Missing Person
(block of 30400 Cherry)
- 8:34 p.m. - Family Trouble
(reported at RPD headquarters)

Thursday, October 14

- 9:45 a.m. - Disturbance
(block of 8500 Wickham)
- 10:31 a.m. - B&E
(block of 11200 Gabriel)
- 10:50 a.m. - Larceny
(reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:24 a.m. - Recovered UDAA
(block of 29300 Northline)
- 11:25 a.m. - Mental Incapacitation
(block of 34500 McBride)
- 12:53 p.m. - Larceny
(block of 29600 Ecorse)
- 2:41 p.m. - PD/MDOP
(block of 8900 Middlebelt)
- 2:42 p.m. - B&E
(block of 5990 W. Maple)
- 3:04 p.m. - JC/R
(block of 15000 Mesa Way)
- 4:03 p.m. - Fraud Complaint
(block of 11200 Metro Airport
Center Dr.)
- 4:10 p.m. - Fight
(block of 9500 Middlebelt)
- 6:54 p.m. - JC/R
(block of 15800 Isabelle)

- 6:56 p.m. - Man with a Weapon
(block of 15900 Anthony)
- 7:30 p.m. - B&E
(block of 11100 Harrison)
- 7:46 p.m. - Loud Music
(block of 28300 Leroy)
- 9:00 p.m. - OUIL
(block of 7100 Inkster)
- 9:10 p.m. - A&B
(block of 15000 Knoll Way)
- 11:36 p.m. - Threats
(block of 13600 Cogswell)

Friday, October 15

- 12:26 a.m. - Larceny
(block of 9000 Wickham)
- 9:25 a.m. - UDAA
(block of 16300 Dodge)
- 10:16 a.m. - Larceny
(block of 28800 Smith)
- 10:17 a.m. - Abandoned Vehicle
(block of 15100 Middlebelt)
- 12:31 p.m. - UDAA
(block of 16300 Hollywood)
- 1:11 p.m. - Larceny
(block of 6120 Cordell)
- 5:13 p.m. - Larceny
(block of 16800 Heather Blvd.)
- 7:09 p.m. - Mental Incapacitation
(block of 35100 Lynn)
- 8:43 p.m. - PD/MDOP
(block of 37200 Castle Dr.)
- 11:01 p.m. - Man with a Weapon
(block of 15000 Knoll Way)

Saturday, October 16

- 12:42 a.m. - Threats
(block of 5940 Panam)
- 1:06 a.m. - Loud Music
(block of 16400 Oakbrook)
- 2:51 a.m. - Disturbance
(block of 6240 Edmund)
- 6:43 a.m. - Disturbance
(block of 8500 Wickham)
- 9:41 a.m. - Family Trouble
(block of 8240 Wahrman)
- 11:03 a.m. - A&B
(block of 5820 Middlebelt)
- 12:10 p.m. - B&E
(block of 13400 Inkster)
- 1:32 p.m. - Larceny
(block of 17000 Brandt)
- 3:39 p.m. - Larceny
(block of 7600 Merriman)
- 6:18 p.m. - B&E
(block of 6330 Cordell)
- 6:23 p.m. - Harassment Complaint
(block of 35400 Golden)
- 8:53 p.m. - Fight
(block of 6160 Tyndall)

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HALLOWEEN

Safety Tips



FOR KIDS

- Trick-or-Treat before dark.
- Be cautious of animals & strangers.
- Carry a flashlight so you can see & be seen easily.
- Visit homes that you know & that have the porch light on.
- A face mask may obstruct your vision; use makeup instead.
- Accept your treats at the door & never go into a stranger's house.
- Wear a costume that makes it easy for you to walk, see, & be seen.
- Plan your Trick-or-Treat route ahead of time. Pick streets that are well lit.
- Trick-or-Treat with a parent, older brother, sister, or friends. Never travel alone.
- Don't hide or cross the street between parked cars or in the middle of the block.
- Walk, slither, & sneak on sidewalks; if there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic.
- Keep away from open fires & candles. (Keep in mind that costumes can be extremely flammable.)
- Have a grown-up inspect your treats before eating. Don't eat candy if the package is open.
- Look LEFT, RIGHT, then LEFT AGAIN before crossing the street to check for cars, trucks, & low-flying brooms. Cross *only* at corners.
- Wear light-colored or reflective-type clothing so you are more visible. (Remember to put reflective tape on bikes, skateboards, & brooms, too!)

FOR PARENTS

- Your child should know his/her phone number & address.
- Dress children in shoes that fit. Large-size shoes make it easier to trip & fall.
- Limit the use of "weapons" as part of the costume. If you allow a weapon, be sure it is soft & flexible.
- When you inspect the treats, be sure they have not been tampered with & are safely sealed. Be careful with fruit, as punctures are easily missed.



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Merriman School Welcomes New Student Teachers



(From left) Shellie Moore, principal at Merriman Elementary, proudly presented her school's three new student teachers from Western Michigan University: Amy Hemovich, Kelly Upchurch, and Lorianne DeDomenico.

The Merriman Elementary community has given a warm welcome to three new student teachers from Western Michigan University. The young teachers came to Merriman through a cooperative WMU-Romulus Community Schools program.

Principal Shellie Moore was among the first to greet Amy Hemovich, who is working with third-grade teacher Jessica Graham; Kelly Upchurch, who works with sixth-grade teacher Ruthanne Lhiva; and Lorianne DeDomenico, who is working with third-/fourth-grade teacher Michelle Misiak.

"We are happy to have the Western student teachers with us, and we welcome them to the Merriman family," said Moore. "I know that our students and parents are looking forward to working with them."

WMU student teachers gradually become acquainted with students and assume more responsibilities as the semester unfolds. Their student-teach-

ing experience culminates during their three final weeks, when they serve as classroom teachers.

Representatives from WMU and supervising teachers from Merriman School combine to provide feedback and coaching throughout the semester-long assignments.

Amy Hemovich is a graduate of Utica Eisenhower High School, where she was active in the school's marching band color guard. She enjoys both jazz and lyrical dancing.

Kelly Upchurch, a graduate of Erie Mason High School, was vice-president of the student council and a member of the school's track team. She also played on both the basketball and volleyball teams.

Farmington High School graduate Lorianne DeDomenico was a member of the school's student council. She additionally served as the class secretary, and was on the soccer, volleyball, and swim teams. □

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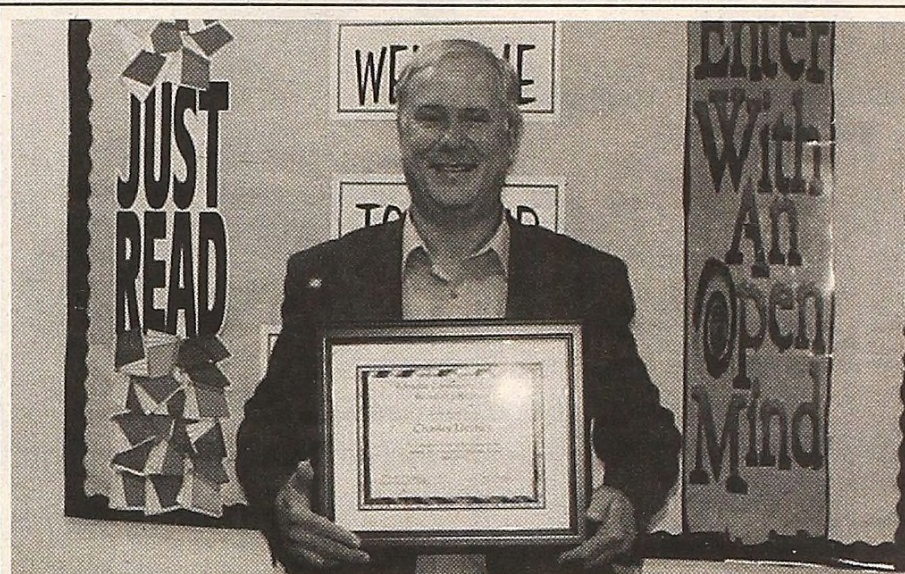
Honoring Excellence

Romulus School Board Honors District's Best

The Romulus Community Schools Board of Education recently celebrated last year's record number of national, state, and county awards with a special recognition ceremony. The program honored schools and individual staff members for their exceptional efforts on behalf of Romulus students.

Among the honorees were:

- Romulus High School teacher Charles Usztics, who was recognized as the nation's Culinary Arts Teacher of the Year by Foodservice Educators Network International.
- Romulus and Wick elementaries, which achieved "A" grades on the Michigan Education YES! report card.
- Cory Elementary, which received the Middle Cities Education Association's coveted Muth Award.
- Barth Elementary, which won Michigan's Blue Ribbon School award.
- Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Award winners from Romulus High School ("Senior Project"), Barth Elementary ("STEP"), Merriman Elementary ("Boys & Girls Club Cooperative Program"), Wick Elementary ("Body Phonics" and "Boys & Girls Club Cooperative Program"), and Community High School ("Health Fair Coalition").
- Five Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (WCRESA) Award winners, including Barth teacher Gerilynn Kline ("Elementary Teacher of the Year"), Wick teacher ShaVonna Johnson ("Rookie Teacher of the Year"), and Bill Baum ("Auxiliary Professional Staff Member").



The Romulus Community Schools Board of Education honored Romulus High School's Charles Usztics for being named National Culinary Arts Teacher of the Year.



A certificate of recognition from the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education also went to Romulus Elementary for receiving an "A" grade from the Michigan Education YES! program. Pictured are principal Lynne Mossoian (holding certificate) and a number of school staff members: (from left) front – Bill Baum, Lisa Dial, Shawn Dickson, Gail Thompkins, and Laurie Painter; back – Jeff Leucht, Rochelle Watson, Angela Slavick, and Jessica Whalen.



Receiving certificates from the Romulus Board of Education were district employees recognized by the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency: (from left) Jennifer Madison ("Outstanding Support Staff" winner, Merriman), Monica Lewis ("High School Teacher of the Year" finalist, RHS), Bill Baum ("Auxiliary Professional Staff" winner, Romulus Elementary), ShaVonna Johnson ("Rookie Teacher of the Year" winner, Wick), and Gerilynn Kline ("Elementary Teacher of the Year" winner, Barth).



Wick Elementary principal Debbie Juriga (third from right) proudly showed off the recognition certificate given to her school by the Romulus Board of Education for earning an "A" from the Michigan Education YES! program. Pictured with Juriga are a number of school staff members, including (from left) Marge Olson, Becky Weimer, ShaVonna Johnson, Sandy MacDonald, and Chris Consales.



Joining former principal Phyllis Adkins (back, third from right) to accept a Board certificate recognizing Cory Elementary for winning the Middle Cities Education Association's Muth Award for Educational Excellence were: (from left) front – Marcus Madison, Alec Madison, and Melissa Forsyth; back – Jennifer Madison, Joseph Madison, Reverend Rita Talley, Wendy Blohm, Janice Barden, and Dawn Stone.

Honoring Excellence



Merriman Elementary principal Shellie Moore (left) and Wick Elementary principal Debbie Juriga (right) celebrated their cooperative Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Award with members of the Romulus Boys & Girls Club staff: (from left) front – Tina Perkins, Carrie Young, Jill Covell, and Jakleen Ochalek; back – Rev. Arthur Willis and John Juriga.



Travis VanTighem (second from left), representative of SET-SEG (School Employers Trust–School Employers Group), presented a school sign to (from left) teachers Serena Kessler and Dr. Jaime Nelson-Wukie and Principal Dan Hurst for their MASB Award-winning "Senior Project," which was also recognized with certificates from the Board of Education.



Barth Elementary principal Diane Golka (center) and teacher Gerilynn Kline (right) received Board certificates and a school sign for their "Blue Ribbon School" award.



A "Health Fair Coalition" program with the Southgate school district earned certificates and a sign for Community High School principal Al Wilkerson (left) and teacher Jenny Sayer (right).



Sheila Stasak (right), a physical-education teacher at Barth Elementary, was presented with a certificate and sign for her MASB Award-winning STEP (Students and Teachers Exercising with Pedometers) project.



Wick Elementary teacher Chris Consales (right) showed off the recognition certificate and school sign she received for the "Body Phonics" program that she developed.

Muffins for Moms



Halecreek Elementary's recent "Muffins for Moms" program presented a perfect opportunity for mothers to share some time with their children at school. Among those who attended the popular event were: (left) Jackie Southard, Roseann Davis, and Chelsea Southard; (right) Jessica Martini, Alyvia Yacuone, Monica Hamilton, and Giovanna Hamilton.



Also sharing a morning snack were: (from left) front – Lori Wollney, Cody Kowalske, and Thomas Kowalske; back – Tammy Stidham, Kyle Morgan, Dylan Kowalske, Alicia Kowalske, Christine Lindsey, and Brandon Lindsey.



Still others who took part in "Muffins for Moms" were: (from left) front – Katharine Pacheco, Wilfredo Pacheco, and Antonio Pacheco; middle – Alana Wilson, Stacy Pacheco, and Morgan Pacheco; back – Marilyn Pacheco and Jarret Wilson.

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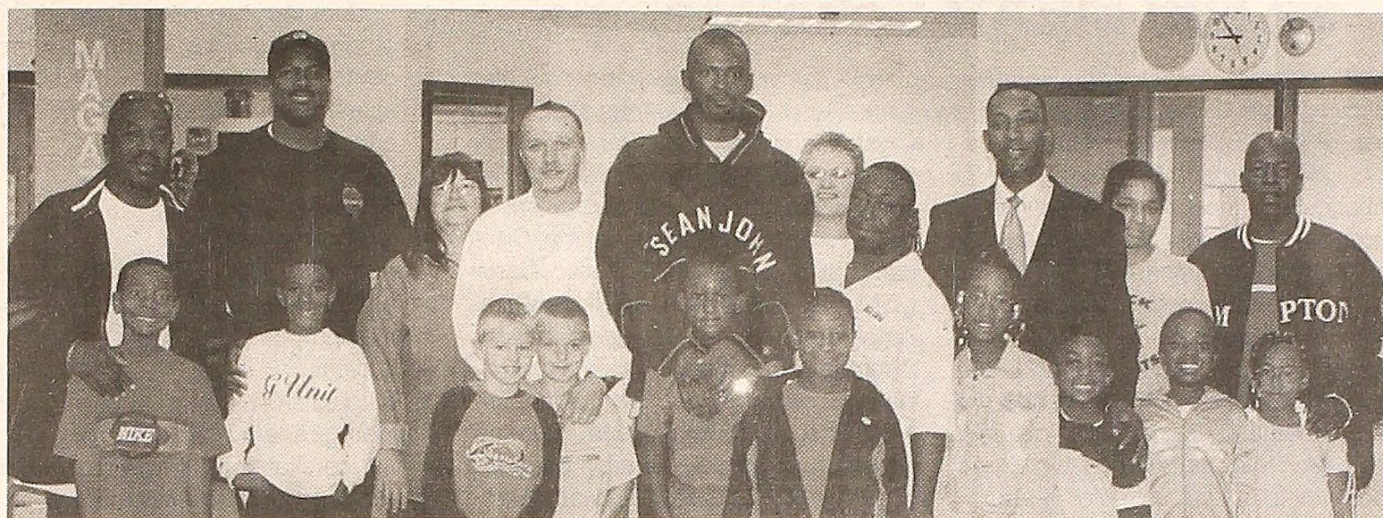
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Parents, Students Share Breakfast at Wick



Wick Elementary's recent "Donuts for Dads" program brought fathers to school to share time with their children. Among those who attended the program were: (from left) Howard Mallard with son Malik; Kenneth Brown with son London; Sandi Dotson; Brad Raymond with sons Austin and Jordan; Daniel Jeffries Sr. with son Daniel Jr.; Debbie Juriga, principal; Eddie Fultz with daughter Achlee; Samuel Hall with children Lauren and Patrick; Danielle Funderburg; and Tyrone Hall with daughter Jade and her friend, Shanoria Buford.



Wick's "Muffins for Moms" program was also a big success. Participants included: (from left) front Romney Funderburg, Ryan Lamoureux, Rachel Funderburg, Victoria Broome, and Ashley Lamoureux; middle—Danielle Funderburg, Terry Lamoureux, Annette Lofton-Jones, Sandi Dotson, Sherri Britt, Valerie Broome, and Regina Yancey; back — Karenza Fitch and Debbie Juriga, principal.



Also attending "Muffins for Moms" were: (from left) front Sheryl Walters, Debbie Woolford, Romney Funderburg, Malik Mallard, and Ramiro Nevels; middle—Daniel Jeffries; back—Tiffany Lee, Sonya Hargrove, Jewel Alexander, Charisma Harris, Debbie Mallard, and Luegena Morris.

49 RHS Graduates Earn \$2,500 MEAP Scholarships

Forty-nine students from Romulus High School's Class of 2005 earned a total of \$122,500 in Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) scholarships, according to final data recently released by the Michigan Department of Education.

In order to be eligible for the scholarships, the students had to score in Level I (exceeds Michigan standards) or Level II (meets Michigan standards) on the mathematics, science, reading, and writing tests that were administered during their junior and senior years.

RHS Class of 2005 members who qualified for the \$2,500 MEAP scholarships were: Kristen Atchley, Jazmine Bennett, Alicia Bracy, Donald Brewer, Ronald Brown, Jewelina Butler, Teela

Carroll, Justin Chapman, Chrystal Coleman, Ryan Cordle, Jeremiah Cross, Crystal Hahn, Katie Hale, Paris Hawkins, Benjamin Hohman, Audra Howard, Janet Johnson, Lawrence Johnson, Daniel Kinney, William Kolar, Jared Kozma, Candace Lawrence, Mallori Losacco, Carolyn Moore, Leah Moore, Anjelique Moss, Antoinette Nelson, Jessica Obayan, Amanda O'Connor, Michelle Patterson, Dijon Piggee, Wallace Reynolds, Malcolm Rhodes, Philip Roscoe, Hameed Seifuddin, Lindsay Sharp, Sawaira Sheikh, Jessica Shelton, Paulette Stanford, Matthew Steffani, Jamie Suiter, Rebecca Thomas, Joann Tieppo, Miah Wade, Alecia Walls, Natalie Watt, William Williams, LaShonda Windham, and Ashley Wright. □

City Breaks Ground for New Rec Center

continued from page 1

Indoor facilities will include:

- a family aquatics complex (zero-depth pool, lap pool, water slides, splash park, and sun deck),
- a fitness center,
- aerobic and dance studios,
- a walking track,
- a climbing wall,
- adult and youth gymnasiums,
- a teen center and day-care rooms,
- multipurpose rooms,
- a kitchen,
- a concession area.

Outdoor areas will include:

- an ice-skating rink in winter/in-line skating rink in warmer months,
- a warming station and concession area,
- a children's play area,
- land for future expansion, which would include walking/jogging paths.

Among those who attended the groundbreaking was Mayor Alan R. Lambert, who said he was excited to bring such a wonderful facility to Romulus residents without increasing taxes.

"About a year ago, I was driving past this vacant building, and I noticed that the vacant land adjacent to it was for sale," said Lambert. "I immediately realized that it was the future home of our new recreation center.

"Best of all," he added, "after talking to [Economic Development director] Tim Keyes, I learned that it was located in a TIFA [Tax Increment Finance Authority] district" – thus allowing the City to use TIFA funds to pay for the property, construction, and renovation of the facility.

"This new facility will greatly improve Romulus residents' quality of life, and will have a positive impact for years to come," Lambert concluded. □

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 26, 2005

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, September 26, 2005, in the Media Center at Romulus High School, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President April Frayer.

Roll call showed members Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Niema White, Betty Lenossi, Cheryle Buckley, and Thomas Kuderik present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Frayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

9/05/16 Moved by White supported by Roscoe to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

9/05/17 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Kuderik to approve the Minutes of September 12, 2005, as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following Personnel Actions for Board approval.

EMPLOYMENT: Jason Bono, Fifth-grade Teacher, Barth Elementary School, Effective September 26, 2005.

9/05/18 Moved by White supported by Buckley that the Board of Education accept the employment of personnel as submitted. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – FYI: Helen Bullock, Cafeteria I, French Fryer and General Utility Person, Romulus High School, Effective September 22, 2005; and Sharon Zilka, Bus Aide, Transportation Department, Effective August 31, 2005.

RESIGNATION: Evelyn Hamlin, Secretary #2, Attendance/Assistant Principal's Secretary, Romulus Middle School, Effective September 16, 2005.

9/05/19 Moved by White supported by Buckley that the Board of Education accept the resignation of personnel as submitted. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

9/05/20 Moved by Buckley supported by Roscoe to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Winter Millage Levy

9/05/21 Moved by Buckley supported by Mientkiewicz that the Board of Education adopt the Finance Committee's recommended levy for the 2005 Winter Tax collection.

	HOMESTEAD	NON-HOMESTEAD
Hold Harmless	4.49	0
Local Operations	0	0
Debt	3.50	3.50
Total	7.99	3.50

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Presentation – Recognition Awards – Schools and Individuals

Members of the Board of Education recognized the following principals, teachers, and

support staff for the awards that they received this past school year:

Al Wilkerson – Ford Alternative School PASS Program/MASB Educational Excellence Award; Lynne Mossoian – "A" School Report Card Award; Debbie Juriga – "A" School Report Card Award/MASB Educational Excellence Award; Phyllis Adkins – Middle Cities Education Association's Muth Award; Gerilynn Kline – RESA Elementary Teacher of the Year Award; Bill Baum – RESA Ancillary Professional of the Year Award; Shellie Moore – MASB Educational Excellence Award; ShaVonna Johnson – RESA New Teacher Award; Sheila Stasak – MASB Educational Excellence Award; Diane Golka – Michigan Blue Ribbon Award; Charles Usztics – National Culinary Arts Teacher of the Year Award; Chris Consales – MASB Educational Excellence Award; Serena Kessler – MASB Educational Excellence Award; Jaime Nelson – MASB Educational Excellence Award; Monica Lewis – RESA Secondary Teacher of the Year finalist; and Jennifer Madison, RESA Outstanding Support Staff Member Award.

Student Enrollment Report

Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources, presented preliminary enrollment numbers to members of the Board of Education.

Civil Rights Compliance

9/05/22 Moved by Buckley supported by Lenossi that the Board of Education adopt the attached Assurance of Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Field Trip – Quebec – Romulus High School French Class

9/05/23 Moved by White supported by Kuderik that the Board of Education approve a Field Trip to Quebec over February break for the Romulus High School French Class at no cost to the district. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Ms. Tracie Bland appeared to thank the Board for a prompt resolution to a bus problem, and expressed her positive experience with the Transportation Supervisor, Betty Cantrell.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent of Schools, shared the following Items of Interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) RESA Communication – Congratulations on Body Phonics, STEP, and High School Senior Project; 2) Leadership Symposium Thank-you; 3) The Merriman Star; 4) Cory Elementary – Public Act 25 Report; and 5) NAACP's Annual Freedom Fund Dinner.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Cheryle Buckley, Healthy Living Committee, stated that Congress is requiring every district to have its own school wellness policy in place by the start of the 2006–2007 school year. Mr. Bill Routhier, Director of Business and Operations, to check.

Mrs. Betty Lenossi had questions about the Homecoming halftime ceremony.

ADJOURNMENT:

9/24/05 Moved by White supported by Buckley that the Meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

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Community Calendar

- **Fall Rummage Sale** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (corner of Craig and Ellis streets in New Boston) will host its Fall Rummage Sale at the church on Friday, October 21, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, October 22 ("Bag Day"), from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds will go to church-related charities. For more information, call 734-753-9048.
- **Flyers Hold Annual Membership Meeting** – The annual membership meeting for the Romulus Athletic Club "Flyers" will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, at Romulus Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga). All card-carrying members are encouraged to attend.
- **Sauerkraut Supper & Bazaar** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church will host a Sauerkraut Supper and Bazaar at the church (located at the corner of Craig and Ellis streets in New Boston) on Thursday, November 3, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 5 to 12; no charge for children under 5.
- **Flu Shots** – Flu shots will be available to **people of all ages** at the Romulus Senior Center (temporarily located in Progressive Hall, 11580 Ozga) on Friday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The shots are free to anyone with Medicare "B"; all others pay \$22. Pneumonia shots (\$35) will also be available. To ensure that enough serum will be on hand, the Center is asking all participants to make an appointment. For more info, call 734-941-6009.
- **Holiday Arts & Crafts Show** – The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce will host its seventh annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Show in the cafeteria at Belleville High School (501 West Columbia Avenue) on Saturday, November 5. Interested crafters should call 734-697-7151 for more information.
- **Barth Craft Bazaar** – Barth Elementary School will host its third annual Craft/Vendor Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 19, at the school (38207 Barth Road). Crafters/vendors interested in participating may contact Theresa Beard, parent coordinator, at either 734-532-1250 or 734-941-7482. Fees are \$20 per space and \$5 per table (limited); electricity available (limited). Deadline for registration is Monday, November 14.
- **Cory To Host Arts & Crafts Show** – Cory Elementary School will host its second annual Arts & Crafts Show at the school (35200 Smith Road, at Wayne Road) on Saturday, December 3, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Vendor spaces (10'x10') are still available; call parent coordinators Janice Barden or Reverend Rita Talley at 734-532-1305 (days) or 734-942-0456 (evenings) for more information.
- **Head Start Still Accepting Registrations** – Romulus Head Start (located in the Burton Center at 35408 Beverly Road) is still accepting registrations for the 2005–2006 school year. Parents of children who will be 3 years old on or before December 1, 2005, and who meet various other requirements (call 734-532-1900 for details), may register. The following materials should be brought to registration: the child's birth certificate, child's and parent's Social Security cards, child's immunization records, child's doctors' names/addresses, parent's proof of residency (valid driver's license or state ID), family's health insurance card(s), parent's proof of employment, and income proofs such as W-2 or 1040 forms or FIA/TANF breakdowns. Please allow at least one hour to complete the registration process.
- **Parent/Child Program for Two-year-olds** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery – a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory organization – is still accepting applications for its "Just You & Me" parent/child program for two-year-olds. The class meets Wednesdays from 10 to 11:15 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street, New Boston). For more information, call Audra Timpko at 734-654-1760.
- **Nursery Accepting Applications** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery – a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory organization – is still accepting applications for the 2005–2006 school year. The class for three-year-olds focuses on learning through play to enhance social skills; the class for four-year-olds emphasizes kindergarten readiness skills. HCCN is located in St. Paul's Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street, New Boston). For more information, call Maria Wroblewski at 734-753-5999.
- **Yard Waste Pickup** – Just a reminder that yard waste pickup will end the week of November 28 through December 2.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at Romulus Senior Center, temporarily located at Romulus Progressive Hall, call 734-941-6009.)

Deadline Approaches for Absentee Ballot Requests

Just a reminder that the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot for the November 8 General Election is Saturday, November 5. The Romulus City Clerk's office (11111 South Wayne Road) will be open that day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for your convenience.

Holiday Gala Buffet

The Romulus Senior Center's annual Holiday Gala Buffet will be held at the Doubletree Hotel on Wednesday, December 21, beginning at 10 a.m. The menu will consist of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage links, home-style breakfast potatoes, buttermilk biscuits with sausage gravy, French toast, sliced seasonal fruit, assorted breakfast breads, and coffee/tea/decaf/milk/orange juice.

Cost for the buffet is just \$12 per person; seniors who attended the 2004 event will receive a \$4 discount compliments of U.S. Park. Early sign-up is strongly recommended.

Flu Shots

The Romulus Senior Center will join with Visiting Nurse Association Home Support Services to offer flu shots on Friday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Shots are free to seniors with Medicare B; all others will pay \$22. Pneumonia shots (\$35) will be offered, as well.

To insure that enough serum will be available, please call in advance to make an appointment, if possible.

Walk for Your Health

Ride the Senior Center's van to Wayne County Community College's Western Campus each Monday at 12:30 p.m. for an hour of safe indoor walking at your own pace. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

The Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens, including:

- Bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),

- Bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- Fun Night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- Game Day (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.).

Club One Meets

Club One – a social group for local senior citizens – meets at the Romulus Senior Center each Tuesday at 11 a.m.

The club's next meeting, set for October 25, will feature a trip to the Sportsmen's Den for lunch, followed by shopping at a Super Kmart.

New faces are always welcome!

Red Hat Society Meets

The Romulus Senior Center is now an official member of Red Hat Society Chapter #40741. The group's upcoming events include a trip to Frankenmuth on Monday, October 31; the Detroit Zoo on Saturday, November 5; and the Red Apple restaurant on Saturday, November 12.

For information on joining, e-mail romulusredhatsociety@yahoo.com or call the Center.

Transportation Schedule

The Romulus Senior Center has established a transportation schedule for pickups at both the Romulus Tower and Whispering Willows.

The transportation schedule for the Tower is:

- Hot Lunch at the Center (weekdays at 10:50 a.m.),
- Bunco (Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m.),
- Bingo (Wednesdays at 12:45 p.m.),
- Fun Night (Wednesdays; call ahead for appointment)
- Game Day (Thursdays; call ahead for appointment)
- Chiropractor visits at the Center (each second and fourth Monday of the month at 12:45 p.m.), and
- Commodities and Focus: HOPE (third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m.).

The transportation schedule for Whispering Willows is:

- Club #1 meetings (Tuesdays at 10:45 a.m.).

For all other transportation needs from either the Tower or Whispering Willows, call the Center to make an appointment.

Hot Lunches

Just a reminder that the Romulus Senior Center serves a hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. each weekday for only \$1.75. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation.

Yard Waste Pickup Ends

Just a reminder that the week of November 28 through December 2 will be the last for yard waste pickup in Romulus. □

The Stork Arrived

Alexis Rae Hardy

Amanda Hardy of Romulus, Michigan, is proud to announce the birth of her first child, Alexis Rae Hardy.

Alexis was born in Oakwood Hospital (Dearborn, MI) at 9:36 p.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2005, weighing 7 lbs., 1 oz., and measuring 20 1/4 in.

Among those welcoming the new arrival were her maternal grandparents, Larry and Jackie Robbins (Romulus). □



Alexis Rae Hardy

Letters to the Editor

continued from page 5

Politics As Usual?

To the Editor:

I would like to begin by apologizing for a mistake that appeared in one of my previous "Letters to the Editor." [See the September 23, 2005 issue of *The Romulus News*.] When I mistakenly reported that the City is paying Public Relations director Kathleen Trent \$50,000 a year plus benefits (instead of the correct figure of \$40,000 with no benefits), I was using data from the hiring of the City's previous PR director, Mr. Steve Jones.

As I have stated before, the Romulus City administration comes out publicly to correct or defend itself regarding statements I have made, such as the one regarding the incorrect salary figure. I think it is more pertinent for Mayor Alan Lambert to explain the circumstances leading up to the hiring of Mr. Tim Keyes, the City's current Economic Development director, and the hiring of Mr. Keyes' brother-in-law, Mr. Jones. I would also like Mayor Lambert to explain why Mr. Jones was subsequently terminated.

I find it interesting to see how defensive some people in Romulus have gotten, as evidenced by the October 7 "Letters to the Editor" from Susan Hurt and Todd Hauter. There is no political agenda behind my editorial submissions to this paper. In this land of free speech, I like to think that I honor Mr. Hauter's service to our country by freely expressing my opinions that he fought to guarantee. Regarding Ms. Hurt's statements, she also honors Mr. Hauter's service by expressing her opinions. America is great because its citizens are free to express differing opinions.

Romulus has improved in many ways during the past three to four years, I will agree. You can see progress with the landscape, the demolition of old buildings, the construction of a new senior center, and the plans for a much-needed public recreation center. I admire those who gave of themselves to bring about these positive changes.

I will say, however, that you must not only look at *what* is happening, but *why* and *when* things have occurred during the Lambert administration. As with most administrations, whether locally or nationally, positive changes that benefit core voting groups, such as senior citizens, commonly occur just prior to an election. This is just politics as usual, and the Lambert administration is merely being typical. Some of these changes are really "positive promises," and time will tell long after the election if these promises (such as the ones regarding a new casino, racetrack, and retail developments) become reality.

Even without a casino, voters will be placing their bets as to which candidates are truly going to deliver on their promises. It shouldn't matter whether a candidate has several enormous four-color billboards, or a smattering of hand-painted plywood signs. What really matters is which candidate will do the job that citizens expect.

My personal statements come from me, a 22-year-old business owner who does have much to learn, but who also possesses the education and knowledge from having been involved in business, politics, and much more. True, I no longer reside in the City of Romulus, but, to Romulus's credit, I was educated in such a way that I have become well equipped to go out into the world with the confidence to achieve my professional goals. That's why I have this passion for the hometown that has nurtured me to this point. Romulus has been the launching pad for many of its citizens to achieve greatness – citizens such as Charley Lau, several NBA players, and Lloyd Ward, who became the chairman and CEO of Maytag Corporation.

I'd like to think that Romulus's best years are yet to come. Here's hoping that we can avoid the "good old boy" politics that have kept many communities like Romulus mired in the past without hope for the future.

Ryan E. Block
Naples, FL □

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Obituaries

Evelyn M. Foley

Evelyn M. Foley of Taylor, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, October 9, 2005, at the age of 92.

The native of Romulus, Michigan, was born on Sunday, May 4, 1913.

Evelyn is survived by 2 daughters, Shirlen (Robert) Powell (Taylor) and Karen A. Foley-Glenn (Taylor); 2 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents, Henry and Jesse (Block) Poet.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, October 12, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Reverend Geoffrey G. Drutchas (St. Paul United Church of Christ, Taylor) officiating. Interment was at West Mound Cemetery (Taylor).

Andrew F. Imielowski

Andrew F. Imielowski of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Monday, October 10, 2005, at the age of 26.

The native of Livonia, Michigan, was born on Friday, July 6, 1979.

Andrew – a graduate of Eastern Michigan University – was employed as a CAD designer at Troy Manufacturing, and also managed Woodlands Golf Course. He enjoyed golfing, playing video games, fixing computers, and tinkering with his car.

Surviving Andrew are his parents, Roman and Monica (Szupica) Imielowski (Romulus); 2 sisters, Jovita Routin (Taylor, MI) and Patricia Imielowski (Belleville, MI); and 2 nieces, Samantha

and Kayla.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, October 15, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus), with Father Festus Ejimadu officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Memorial tributes to the National Marfan Foundation – a nonprofit voluntary health organization that assists people with Marfan syndrome and related connective-tissue disorders – would be greatly appreciated by the Imielowski family. Send donations to the NMF at 22 Manhasset Avenue, Port Washington, NY 11050.

Nina J. Smitt

Nina J. Smitt of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Monday, October 10, 2005, at the age of 83.

Nina was born in Nixa, Missouri, on Friday, June 23, 1922. A member of the Romulus Senior Center, she enjoyed flower arranging and traveling.

Surviving Nina are her husband of 57 years, Robert S. Smitt; 2 sons, William W. (Deborah) Smitt (Clinton Township, MI) and Robert W. (Jo Ruth) Smitt (Dundee, MI); 2 sisters, Mrs. Edith Hedg-beth (Nixa) and Mrs. Pauline Barnwell (Boca Raton, FL); 6 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents, William and Nora (Aven) McCafferty, and 2 brothers, Benjamin and Aven Lee.

A funeral service was held on Friday, October 14, at Community United Methodist Church (Romulus), with Reverend William Kren officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Memorial tributes to the Community United Methodist Church Building Fund would be greatly appreciated by the Smitt family.

Calvin M. Snyder

Calvin M. Snyder of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Wednesday, October 12, 2005, at the age of 76.

Calvin was born in Lore City, Ohio, on Tuesday, January 29, 1929. His interests included fishing and bowling.

Surviving Calvin are his wife, Angeline (Hicks) Snyder; a daughter, Loretta (John) Ciantar (Monroe, MI); a son, Kenneth J. Snyder (Newport, MI); 2 sisters, Belle Rose Cantek (Columbus, OH) and Delores (Joseph) Caradonna

(Detroit, MI); 5 grandchildren; and 1 great-grandchild.

Among those who preceded him in passing were his parents, Samuel and Bernice (Chester) Snyder; a brother, Robert Snyder; and his first wife, Helen.

A funeral service was held on Monday, October 17, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor Frank Martin (Community Lutheran Church, Flat Rock, MI) officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Rosemary Simonson

Rosemary Simonson of Raleigh, North Carolina, passed away on Saturday, October 8, 2005, at the age of 82.

The native of Hancock, Michigan, was born on Monday, May 28, 1923.

Rosemary taught school in the Upper Peninsula from 1945 to 1956. She later moved to New Boston, Michigan, where she resided until 2003. Her interests included reading, crafts (especially needlework), and shopping. She also traveled extensively, visiting all but two (Alaska and New Mexico) of the 50 United States.

Surviving Rosemary are a son, Jonathan (Ghazala Sadiq) Simonson (Raleigh); 2 daughters, Jennifer (Gary) Burg (Pinckney, MI) and Jessica E. (Scott) Cohn (Rye Brook, NY); a brother, Charles Hugo (Battle Creek, MI); and 5 grandchildren, Stephanie Ryalls, Zubair Simonson, Yusaf Simonson, Nathan Cohn, and Justin Cohn.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents, George and Louisa (Auger) Hugo; 2 sisters, Myrtle (who passed away in 2000) and Lillian (2005); and her husband, John H. Simonson (1991).

A funeral service was held on Thursday, October 13, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Father John P. Hedges (St. Stephen Catholic Church, New Boston) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Memorial tributes to the Scholarship Fund at Huron High School (New Boston) would be greatly appreciated by the Simonson family.

Margaret E. Soop

Margaret E. Soop of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Saturday, October 15, 2005, at the age of 80.

The Romulus native was born on Monday, December 22, 1924.

Surviving Margaret are her son, Norman G. Soop, Jr.; a brother, Eugene O'Brien; and a sister, Rosie (Fred) Simmons.

Her husband, Norman G. Soop, Sr., preceded her in passing on July 6, 1977.

A funeral service was held at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus), with Father Festus Ejimadu officiating. Interment was at Our Lady of Hope Cemetery (Brownstown Township, MI). Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus). □

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